

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The claims are 1 to 22.

Claims 1 to 22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Japanese 2003-301101 in view of Yoshida et al. (U.S. 6,790,928).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention employs a specific combination of two kinds of ultraviolet absorbers i.e. at least one ultraviolet absorber is selected from the groups B and C of the Table below.

Also the present invention employs a lactone compound (D) of formula (1) in combination with the above set of ultraviolet absorbers.

		Ultraviolet Absorbers
B Group	(B-1)	2-(2'-hydroxy-5'-methylphenyl)benzotriazole
	(B-2)	2-(2'-hydroxy-5'-tert-octylphenyl)benzotriazole
C Group	(C-1)	2-(3-tert-butyl-5-methyl-2-hydroxyphenyl)-5-chlorobenzotriazole
	(C-2)	2,2'-methylenebis[4-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)-6-(2H-benzotriazole)-2-ylphenol]
	(C-3)	2-[2-hydroxy-3,5-bis(α,α -dimethylbenzyl)phenyl]-2H-benzotriazole

The advantageous effect of the present invention

To evaluate the advantageous effect of the specific combination of ultraviolet absorbers and a lactone compound (B), Example 2 and Comparative Example 7 are compared in the Table below.

Example 2 shows better hue value than Comparative Example 7 in b^* (virgin), b^* (repellet) and Δb^* . These values (hue) are indices of molding heat resistance i.e. reproducibility (see page 20, lines 11 to 19 of the present specification).

Therefore, it is understood that the present invention provides a spectacle lens which has sufficient molding heat resistance to endure being held at high temperatures for a long time at the time of lens molding such as extrusion compression molding and shows a small change in hue

when subjected to heat history such as re-extrusion to recycle product wastes (see page 5, lines 2 to 9 of the present specification).

	Example 2		Comparative Example 7	
	Kind	Amount	Kind	Amount
Ultraviolet Absorber	UV-1(B-2)	0.3	-	-
	UV-2(C-2)	0.04	UV-2(C-2)	0.34
Lactone compound (D)	HS-1	0.0100	HS-1	0.0100
b* (virgin)	0.60		1.35	
b* (repellet)	0.92		1.84	
Δb^*	0.32		0.49	

The Japanese patent (2003-301101)

The Japanese patent discloses a spectacle lens. The Japanese patent also discloses ultraviolet absorbers and benzofuran compound. However, the Japanese patent does not disclose or suggest the specific combination of ultraviolet absorbers of the present invention.

Yoshida et al. (U.S. 6,790,928)

Yoshida et al. discloses ultraviolet absorbers and benzofuran compound used in the present invention. However, Yoshida et al. is silent about the specific combination of ultraviolet absorbers of the present invention.

103(a) Rejection

Yoshida et al. is directed to a process for stabilizing a polycarbonate produced by transesterification (melt poly-condensation, claim 1). However, Yoshida et al. is silent about the hue of the spectacle lens.

The Japanese patent is directed to a resin composition used for spectacle lens. The technical fields of these two documents are completely different. There is no motivation, teaching or suggestion for combining the Japanese patent and Yoshida et al.

Both documents are silent about the specific combination of ultraviolet absorbers of the present invention.

Both documents are silent about the surprising discovery that the hue of a spectacle lens is improved when subjected to heat history by using the specific combination of ultraviolet

absorbers chosen from groups B and C in combination with a lactone compound (D) of the present invention.


For the foregoing reasons, it is apparent that the rejection on prior art is untenable and should be withdrawn.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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